

## **DETAILED ACTION**

(1). Applicants' Amendments and Remarks filed on 11/6/2009 have been received.  
Claim 2 is cancelled. Claims 1, 4-12 are amended.  
The rejection of claims 1-13 in prior Office Action dated 8/12/2009 is withdrawn accordingly.

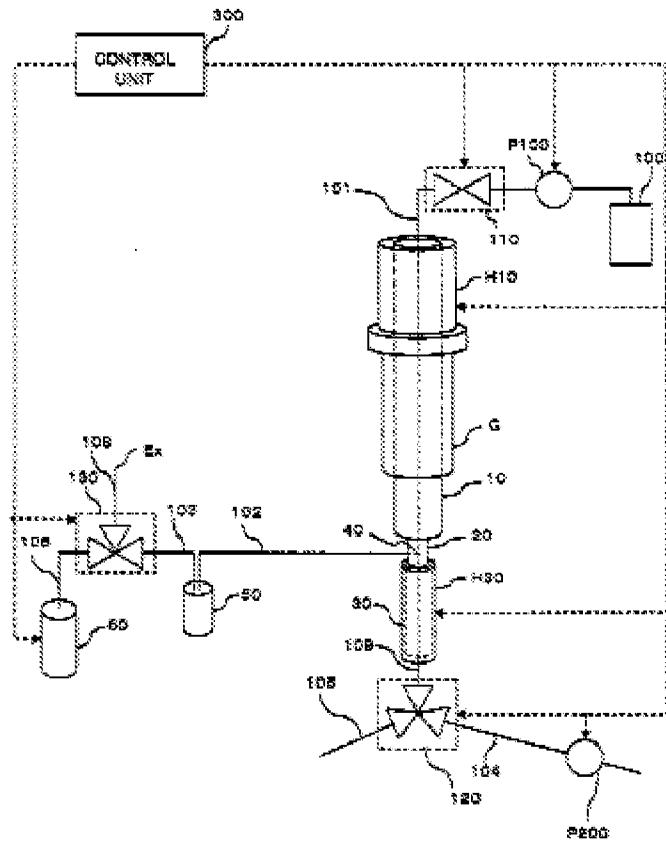
### *Allowable Subject Matter*

(2). **Claims 1, 3-13** are allowed.

### *Reasons for Allowance*

(3). The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In view of present Amendments, this instant Application is in condition of allowance because the 2<sup>nd</sup> valve on an out-flow side of the adsorbing column configured to switch between a discharge of the solvent and a supply of eluant for recovering the material to be measured adsorbed in the adsorbing column as cited in amended instant claim 1, that is not taught or remotely suggested by prior arts of the record. It is further illustrated in the Figure below which shows 3-way valve 120.



Closest prior art of the records - Adcock et al (US 3020128) in that the same arrangement of adsorption column, straight pipe as well as branch node are disclosed. Adcock et al (US 3020128) do not teach the 2<sup>nd</sup> valve connected to the flask at bottom of adsorption column. Although outlet line 220 is shown for the flask, it is structurally different from 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-way valve as claimed by Applicants.

Feb. 6, 1962

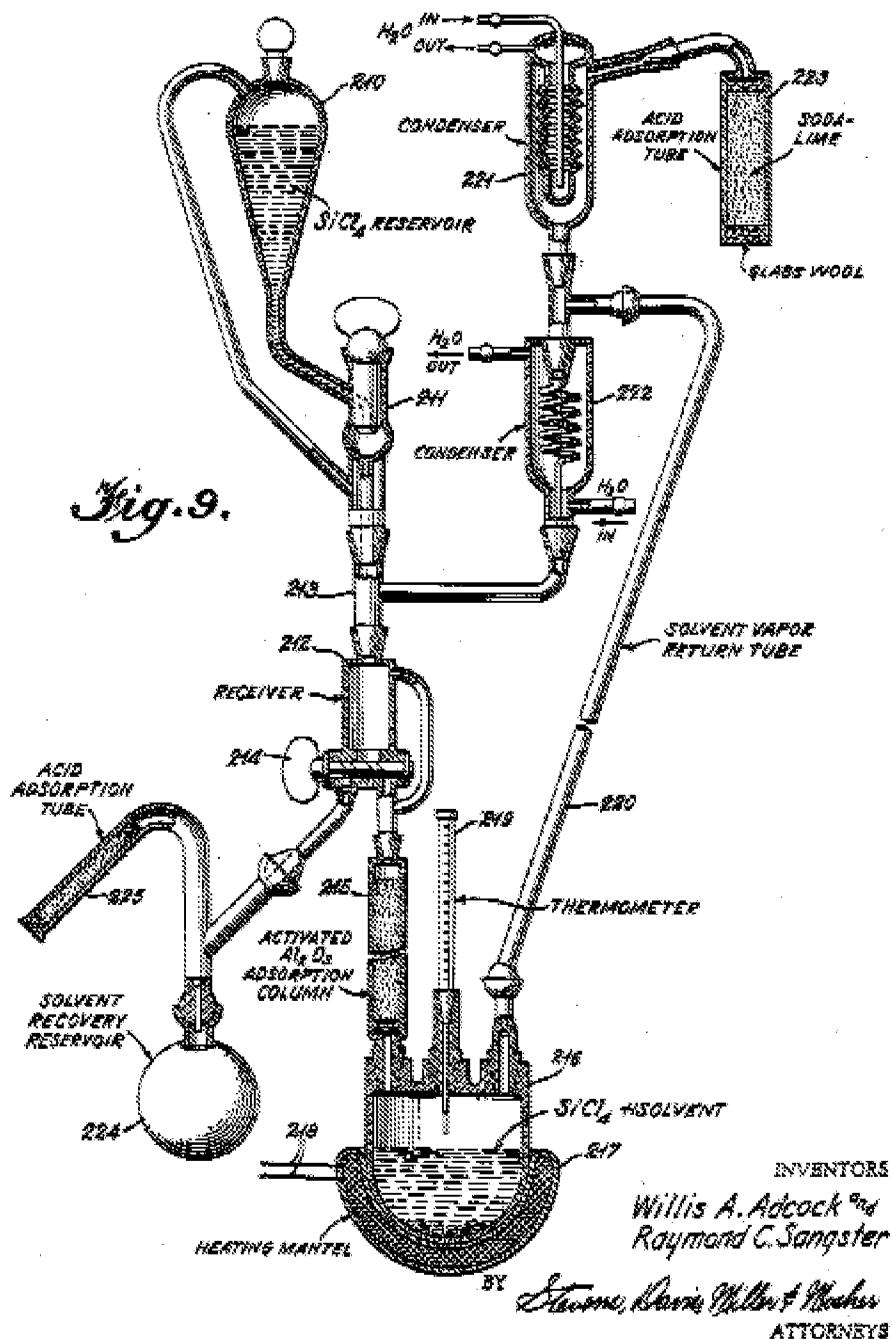
W. A. ADCOCK ET AL.

3,020,128

METHOD OF PREPARING MATERIALS OF HIGH PURITY

Filed Dec. 31, 1957

7 Sheets-Sheet 6



Conclusively, claims 1, 3-13 are patentable and passed to issue as of date of this Allowability Notice.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to IVES WU whose telephone number is (571)272-4245. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Examiner: Ives Wu

Art Unit: 1797

Date: January 4, 2010

/Duane Smith/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797